

Remarks/Arguments

The present amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to bring the case to issue without delay.

1. The priority claim acknowledgment in paragraph 12 of PTOL 326 is appreciated.

2. A correction has been made in the specification to eliminate typographical informalities. The change does not include any new matter.

3. In amending the claims, the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, has been considered and appropriate changes have been made.

4. Claims 1-5 have been replaced by new claims 11 and 12 and claims 6-10 have been made dependent upon claim 12.

The claims should be numbered in the following order: 11, 12, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

5. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the SILVA reference, U.S. patent 6,903,698, has an effective filing date as a reference of 10 December 2003 which is subsequent to the priority date of the present application.

The YOKOTA et al reference, patent number 6,825,812, has an effective date as a reference of 29 May 2003. Both of these dates are subsequent to the priority date of 10 April 2003 to which applicants are entitled.

While the present application is close enough to the German text of the priority application, not to warrant a separate translation, applicants reserve the right to file a formal translation of the priority document already on record to support antedating of both references on which the Examiner appears to rely.

6. Notwithstanding the fact that the references which have been applied here are ineffective as to date, the claims in the case have been modified to reflect amendments made in the parallel patent application before the European Patent Office. Those amendments were made to obviate grounds of rejection based upon references already part of the record here and listed in the PTO 1449 form of record.

More particularly, the antenna assembly now is defined as including a contacting element (5) on a carrier (6) on or in the housing 100 for the antenna signal processing unit which includes the circuit board (4).

That contacting element, in the embodiment of FIG. 2, has an upper part (11) a lower part (12) and a prestressing member (18) between these two parts which do not participate in electrically

connecting the circuit board (4) with the antenna structure (2, 102, 103).

In addition, conductive means (7; 20, 21, 22) is provided independently of the prestressing member (18) to effect an electrical conductive connection between the board and the antenna structure.

In YOKOTA et al (FIGS. 4a and 4b), for example, the member which provides the prestress, namely, member 29, is electrically conductive (column 5, lines 44-48). In an embodiment with FIG. 5a, FIG. 5b, the electrical contact is through the spring 34 (column 8, lines 9-11).

Thus the YOKOTA et al reference does not have a structure falling within either the penultimate paragraph of claim 11 or the final paragraph thereof.

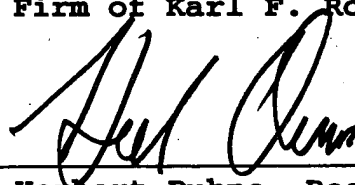
In SILVA there is no question but that the contact spring itself is conductive, forms the upper and lower parts of the contacting element and indeed in the very member providing the prestress, performs the electrical connection. Again neither the penultimate paragraph nor the final paragraph of claim 11 is satisfied by SILVA.

It follows that the applied references do not meet any of the claims in the case and that the rejection should be withdrawn in its entirety. With the reference structure, there is no way to guarantee a constant length conductive path between two members which may lie at variable distances from one another (see especially claim 12) so that claims 11, 12 and 6-10 ought to be

considered to be allowable. An early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

7. A petition for a three month extension of the term is enclosed together with a charge form for the petition fee.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Petition for three month extension
Charge form for the fee (\$1020)